



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
New York District

# Dredged Material Management Plan for the Port of NY & NJ

---

## FACT SHEET

---

**DESCRIPTION:** The Port of New York and New Jersey must be dredged to maintain navigation and commerce estimated to generate about \$20 billion annually in direct and indirect benefits. Due to past and present pollution, managing dredged material from many areas of the Port has become increasingly difficult. This is due to either a lack of management options or the higher cost of the limited number of options currently available. In September 1999 the Corps prepared a Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP) for the Port of New York and New Jersey and an accompanying draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS). It identified the primary and contingency options needed to meet the dredging requirements of the Port through the year 2040 giving special emphasis to beneficial uses. Since then, the Corps has been working with the lead agencies in the region to update the DMMP and finalize the PEIS.

**AUTHORIZATION/PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** New York Harbor encompasses approximately two-dozen separately authorized and maintained Federal navigation channels. These projects, whose authorized depths vary from 8 feet to 50 feet, along with the privately operated berthing areas, generate approximately 2 to 4 million cubic yards of dredged material annually from maintenance. Further, several of these channels are either under construction or in plans for deepening in the upcoming years to accommodate larger vessels calling at the port. The construction of these deeper channels will also generate substantial amounts of dredged material. The DMMP process seeks to identify and implement options to manage the material generated from both the federal and non-federal maintenance and deepening of the Port through the year 2040.

**STATUS:** A newly updated DMMP and the final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement are in development for release to the public in later in 2003. Together, the DMMP and final EIS will respond to comments on the previous 1999 version as well as update the plan to take into account the changes in testing and placement sites that have occurred since its release. The DMMP will continue to utilize a wide variety of preferred and contingency management options for dredged material. These options include:

- **Contaminant Reduction** – With the states lead and Corps support, a multi-million dollar, multi-year data collection and analysis program is now underway to identify and track down the sources of pollution that are contaminating dredged material.
- **Remediation of the Historic Area Remediation Site** – Dredged material is being used beneficially to remediate the HARS (an impacted ocean site) and will likely require decades to complete.
- **Habitat Creation/Restoration** – Several different habitat applications are included in the DMMP (*e.g.*, restoring habitat by filling existing degraded pits, creating fish reefs, and creating shellfish & bird habitats).
- **Land Remediation** – Using amended (or treated) dredged material, several landfills and brownfields in the region are being remediated. Plans and demonstrations are also underway to remediate abandoned mines.
- **Decontamination Technologies** – The USEPA, the Corps, and New Jersey are now demonstrating several innovative dredged material treatment methods. The products of the treatment have a wide array of potential uses (*e.g.*, construction material, or clean fill).
- **Containment Options** – Several inshore pit options are either in use or under consideration as contingency to meet the regions short and mid-term management needs. The pits are sited in existing impacted areas and near to the dredged material sources to avoid adverse environmental impact.

**NOTE:** New Lower Bay subaqueous contained aquatic disposal facilities and island confined disposal facilities are currently inactive and not recommended for implementation in the DMMP.

**CONTACT:** Mr. Bryce Wisemiller, Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
New York District, Programs and Project Management Division, Harbor Programs Branch  
26 Federal Plaza, Room 2119, New York, NY 10278-0090  
Congressional Districts: NY-07, NY-08, NY-09, NY-12, NY-13, NY-14  
NJ-06, NJ-07, NJ-08, NJ-09, NJ-10, NJ-11, NJ 13

Phone: (212) 264 –5797

FAX: (212) 264- 5779

[mailto: Bryce.W.Wisemiller@usace.army.mil](mailto:Bryce.W.Wisemiller@usace.army.mil)